

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00363 271657 Z

43

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 IO-13 AID-20 RSR-01 /136 W
----- 066044

R 241030 Z JUN 73

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 425

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 0363

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT IZ IR

SUBJ: KURDISH PROBLEM AND IRAN

REF: BAGHDAD 329

1. COMMUNIST WEEKLY AL- FIKR AL- JADID AND KDP AL TAAXHI PUBLISHED IDENTICAL ARTICLE JUN 23 STATING THAT ICP DELEGATION HEADED BY FIRST SEC OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE AZIZ MOHAMMAD HAD MET WITH MUSTAFA BARZANI AT HIS HDQS ON JUN 19. STATEMENT SAID TWO PARTIES HAD CONCLUDED THAT IRAQ FACING GREAT DANGER FROM IMPERIALISTS AND THAT TO MEET IT REQUIRED (A) NATIONAL UNITY THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF MAR 1970 MANIFESTO AND SAFEGUARDING RIGHTS OF MINORITIES; AND (B) CREATION OF NATIONAL FRONT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. AL- FIKR AL- JADID COMMENTED EDITORIALY BY PRAISING MEETING AS NEW STEP TOWARD ACCELERATING ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL FRONT AND DEFEATING EFFORTS OF REACTIONARY ELEMENTS TRYING TO EXPLOIT DIFFERENCES AND SOWING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BAGHDA 00363 271657 Z

HATRED AND DOUBTS AMONG NATIONAL FORCES. IT CALLED ON MASSES TO HELP BRING PEACE BETWEEN BAATH AND KDP.

2. COMMENT: THIS MEETING ALMOST CERTAINLY HAD APPROVAL OF BAATH, WHO ARE PRESUMABLY ATTEMPTING TO USE COMMUNIST INFLUENCE WITHIN KDP - AND THEIR STRONG INTEREST INFORMATION OF NATIONAL FRONT - TO PRESSURE BARZANI TO COMPROMISE ON DEMANDS FOR AUTONOMY. THERE IS, HOWEVER, INCREASING EVIDENCE OF DIVERGENCE BETWEEN ICP AND BAATH OVER KURDISH ISSUE. BAATHIST LEADERS ARE BELIEVED TO VIEW KURDISH PROBLEM AS REGIME'S MAJOR REMAINING WEAK SPOT AND TO BE DETERMINED TO RESOLVE IT. LONDON OBSERVER CORRESPONDENT GAVIN YOUNG, WHO RECENTLY SPENT SEVERAL WEEKS HERE AT INVITATION OF GOI, SAID MINISTERS ALL STRESSED THEIR DETERMINATION TO RESOLVE ISSUE AND HAD INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO REACH DETENTE WITH IRAN AS NECESSARY TO KURDISH SETTLEMENT. COMMUNIST LEADERS, ON OTHER HAND, HAD APPEARED MORE RELAXED ABOUT KURDS AND THREAT FROM IRAN. THEY CITED LONG IRANIAN BORDER WITH USSR WHICH MEANT USSR COULD PRESSURE IRAN WHENEVER REQUIRED TO PROTECT IRAQ.

3. ALTHOUGH MANY PIECES OF PUZZLE OBVIOUSLY MISSING, IT APPEARS THAT COMMUNISTS DO NOT WANT TO SEE BAATH RESOLVE KURDISH ISSUE AND ACHIEVE DETENTE WITH IRAN ON THEIR OWN, SINCE THIS WOULD FURTHER STRENGTHEN BAAATHIST POWER MONOPOLY. IF, HOWEVER, COMMUNISTS CAN BRING ABOUT KURDISH SETTLEMENT, THEIR PRICE WILL BE GREATER ROLE IN NATIONAL FRONT.

4. FRENCH AMB CERLES HAS REPORT, IN ADDITION TO THAT CONTAINED IN REFTEL, THAT BAATHISTS ARE BEING TOLD BY SOURCES UNKNOWN THAT SHAH FAVORS DETENTE WITH IRAQ BUT WESTERN POWERS HAVE DISSUADED HIM, PRESUMABLY TO CONTAIN " REVOLUTIONARY" VIEWS FROM SPREADING. THIS RUMOR WAS GIVEN CREDIBILITY BY HEAVY COVERAGE OF CENTO MEETING AND EMPHASIS ON COMBATTING " SUBVERSION".

5. CONSENSUS OF DIPLOMATS HERE IS THAT BAATH REGIME IS SERIOUS IN SEEKING DETENTE WITH IRAQ IN ORDER TO RESOLVE KURDISH PROBLEM AND CONCENTRATE ON RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF PETROLEUM SECTOR AFTER 10 YEARS OF NEAR STAGNATION. I REALIZE DEPT AND EMBASSY TEHRAN MAY HAVE INFO WHICH CONTRADICTS SOME OF ABOVE . IF NOT, HOWEVER, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BAGHDA 00363 271657 Z

PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES IF U. S. COULD LET GOI KNOW, PERHAPS THROUGH THIRD PARTY SUCH AS ALGERIAN OR TURKISH AMB, THAT USG WOULD LIKE TO SEE RAPPROACHMENT BETWEEN IRAN AND IRAQ.
LOWRIE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BAGHDA00363
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BAGHDAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730629/aaaajpnk.tel
Line Count: 118
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 BAGHDAD 329
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <16-Jan-2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980226
Subject: KURDISH PROBLEM AND IRAN
TAGS: PINT, IR, IZ
To: NEA
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO ANKARA
BEIRUT
JIDDA
MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

